

REMEMBERING EDDIE FUNG

• Ms. HARRIS. Mr. President, California and the nation lost a trailblazer and a war hero. Mr. Eddie Fung served our country bravely throughout his tour with the Army National Guard as part of the 2nd Battalion, 131st Field Artillery of the 36th Infantry Division, including 3½ years in a Japanese prisoners of war camp. Mr. Fung will be buried with full military honors at Cypress Lawn Memorial Park in Colma, CA, on June 20, 2018.

Born in San Francisco in 1922, Eddie left home at 16 to become a cowboy in Texas. He joined the National Guard at 17, and his unit was activated in November 1941 as part of the 2nd Battalion, 131st Field Artillery of the 36th Infantry Division that was sent to Java, now part of Indonesia, to fight the invading Japanese in the early months of WWII.

Eddie became the only Chinese-American soldier captured by Imperial Japan during World War II. His battalion was known as the Lost Battalion, as it was not until near the end of the war that there was any news of what happened to the men.

Of the 558 men and officers who landed on Java on January 11, 1942, 534 became prisoners of war, POWs. Ninety-nine were sent to Japan to be slave laborers at Japanese factories and mines, and 435, including Eddie, were sent to work on the Thai-Burma "Death" Railway that was made famous by the film "The Bridge on the River Kwai." Eddie endured nearly 4 years of grueling work, near-starvation, beatings, and tropical diseases as he worked on the infamous railroad project that resulted in the loss of over 12,000 Allied POW and 70,000 Asian lives. Eighty-nine of the men from the battalion died in captivity.

Although Eddie said his capture was a defining moment in his life, the horrific experience is just one aspect of his long and rich life. It includes his Chinese-American upbringing and his life after the war, when he studied chemistry at Stanford University on the GI bill. He also worked as a metallurgist at the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory and became a Tai Chi master after retirement.

As he concluded in his autobiography, "The Adventures of Eddie Fung: Chinatown Kid, Texas Cowboy, Prisoner of War," University of Washington Press: "Taking my life as a whole, I've had many more good days than I've had bad ones. But even the bad days serve a purpose. They remind me of how good I have it now, in the sense that if you have never known hunger, you will not appreciate food; if you have never been enslaved, you will not appreciate what it means to be free."

Eddie Fung is a hero and a role model, and we will miss his vibrant spirit. The thoughts of San Franciscans and Californians are with his wife, Judy Yung of Santa Cruz.●

REMEMBERING KITTIE MOORE WILSON

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, it is with great sadness that I recognize the passing of Kittie Moore Wilson, of New London, NH.

Today, I wish to celebrate the life of Kittie and her service to New Hampshire.

While Kittie was born in Bangor, ME, she spent a majority of her life as a Granite Stater. She attended Epsom High School and then went to Plymouth State University, as well as the University of Connecticut. After graduating, Kittie taught third grade for 15 years at Kearsarge Regional School District before going on to oversee and teach the Mindstretch Program throughout the entire district for the next 16 years.

Known affectionately as the Loon Lady, Kittie had a deep love of the environment and was dedicated to protecting loons and conserving Pleasant Lake in New Hampshire. For her work and her passion, she received the Loon Preservation Committee's Spirit of the Loon Award and the EPA's Meritorious Lifetime Achievement Award.

During my time as Governor of New Hampshire, I had the pleasure of working with Kittie and the Loon Preservation Committee on SB 89, legislation that helped to protect our loon population from deadly lead poisoning and to preserve an important part of our State's natural beauty that helps drive our economy.

Kittie is survived by her husband of 29 years, John, her brother Michael Moore and his family, her sister Karen Johnson and her family, her stepson Jeb Wilson, and her Scottish Terriers Aberfeldy and Macallan.

I join with Kittie's friends and family, and many people across the Granite State in remembering and honoring her legacy.●

REMEMBERING CHRISTOPHER T. BACON

• Ms. HEITKAMP. Mr. President, I was deeply saddened to learn of the loss last week of Christopher T. Bacon, a beloved husband, father, resident of my State of North Dakota, and an agent with the Customs and Border Protection, CBP, Office of Intelligence.

Chris was a wonderful person. His career and service make it clear that he was a man who was guided by strong values and commitment to service. Through his actions, he embodied our Nation's tradition of serving others, dedicating his energy to protecting families all across our Nation.

He was born in San Antonio, TX, and traveled all over our Nation and world. He started his service in the Army and joined CBP in 1995 as a border patrol agent. He advanced through the ranks during his 22 years with the agency. His final posting was as an intelligence collection operations manager, stationed at the National Air Security Operations Center in Grand Forks, ND.

Our Nation, my State, and his family were all fortunate to have him in our midst. He raised a great family and will always be remembered by his colleagues, friends, and neighbors. Through his courage, skill, and commitment, he has left his community and Nation a better and safer place for all who follow.

My heart goes out to his wife, Rhonda, and his children, Kristen, Christopher, Jr., Jake, and Jasmine, in this time of grief. On behalf of my own family and the State of North Dakota, I extend my sincere condolences to Chris's family, friends, and colleagues. I pray that all who knew him can find comfort in their memories of Chris and the positive impact he had on so many lives.●

REMEMBERING RED SCHOENDIENST

• Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I rise today in remembrance of one of St. Louis's, the State of Missouri's, and baseball's great treasures, Hall of Fame Cardinal Red Schoendienst. Red played 15 seasons with the St. Louis Cardinals, made 10 All-Star teams, and was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1989. Red passed last week at his home in Town and Country, MO, just outside of St. Louis, at the age of 95. He had been the oldest living member of the Hall of Fame.

Born Albert Fred Schoendienst 40 miles east of St. Louis in Germantown, IL, Red would make a big impact on the city and the sport of baseball. Red's father, a coal miner who played sandlot ball, got him hooked on the game.

After leaving school, Red joined the Civilian Conservation Corps, where he nearly lost his eye in an accident. He also faced chronic shoulder pain, but stuck with the game. In 1942, he hitchhiked to St. Louis for Cardinals try-outs and made the team. After a stand-out minor league career and a period of Army service, Red played his first Big League game in 1945.

Red played second base for nearly his entire career, leading the National League in fielding percentage seven times. He was such a talented fielder that his teammate and longtime friend, Cardinal legend Stan Musial, once said, "He had the greatest pair of hands I've ever seen."

Red wasn't too shabby at the plate either. He batted over .300 in five seasons as a switch-hitter. Unfortunately, Red's only World Series victory came in 1957 with Hank Aaron and the Milwaukee Braves, not the Cardinals, but we will not hold that against him.

While playing for Milwaukee, Red faced another health challenge. He was diagnosed with tuberculosis and had to have part of a lung removed. Still, Red was a fighter, and just as he overcame his eye and shoulder injuries, he came back to play with the Braves before finishing his career as a Cardinal in 1963.